



# BACK ON TRACK

## LOS ANGELES

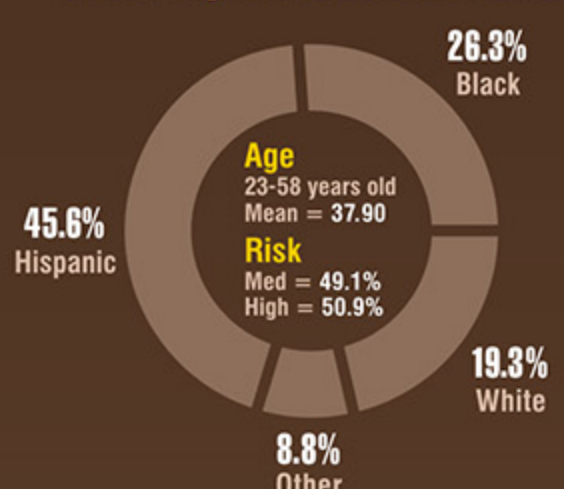
BOT-LA, a pilot program designed to reduce recidivism and provide an ex-offender with resources and skills for successful reentry, was launched March 2015. The evidence-based program addresses the repeat offender—those with the highest risk to recidivate. The following data is a first look at those participating in the program.

The following report includes data reported through May 31, 2016.

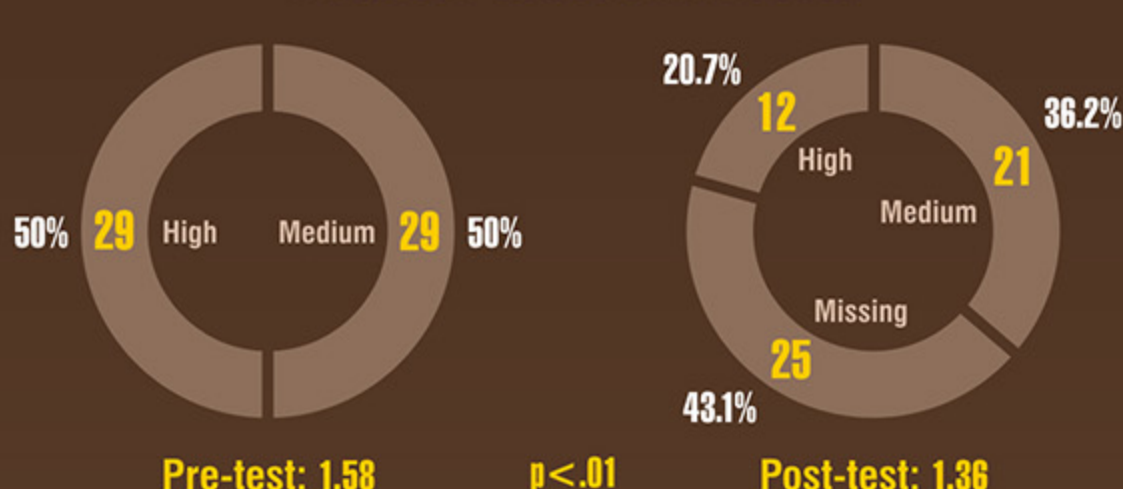
### Participants

Since its launch, 57 participants between the ages of 23 and 58 and, all medium-to-high risk to recidivate, have completed the BOT-LA program. A decrease in recidivism risk level has been observed for participants that have taken both a pre-test and post-test COMPAS<sup>1</sup> risk assessment. Of the participants, 45.6% are Hispanic, 26.3% are Black and 19.3% are White.

#### Participant Information



#### COMPAS Risk Assessment



<sup>1</sup>a validated risk-needs tool used to assess individuals' risk to recidivate and common criminogenic needs.

### Criminal History

The participants have been arrested an average of 20 times, spanning from 1 to 64 arrests. The convictions from these arrests range from 1 to 31 with an overall average conviction rate of 10. Drug crimes represent the largest offense category for both arrests and convictions.

#### Arrests

Drug Crimes: 0-27 Mean=8.70  
Person Crimes: 0-8 Mean=1.46  
Property Crimes: 0-20 Mean=5.11  
Total Crimes: 1-64 Mean=19.75



#### Convictions

Drug Crimes: 0-12 Mean=3.67  
Person Crimes: 0-3 Mean=0.18  
Property Crimes: 0-7 Mean=1.61  
Total Crimes: 1-31 Mean=10.16

### Cognitive Behavioral Training

Cognitive Behavior Training (CBT) is an evidence-based intervention that helps offenders change pro-criminal, destructive thoughts, beliefs and values that underlie criminal thinking. As part of the core BOT-LA programming, all participants must complete the 26-week Thinking for a Change curriculum. The Aggression Replacement Training and the Cognitive Behavior Intervention for Substance Abuse curricula are completed on an as needed basis. The following data reports differences between pre-test (prior to program entry) and post-test (prior to release from custody) scores.

#### Course Completers



#### TCU Drug Screener V\*

Scores indicate a reduction in BOT-LA participant substance abuse disorder.



\*Scores reported are based on classification change, not changes in raw scores

#### TCU Criminal Thinking Scale

Possible scores can range from 10 to 50 with higher scores indicating the participant engages in more criminal thinking.



Criminal Rationalization \*\*

\*\*statistically significant at the  $p < .05$  level



Personal Irresponsibility \*\*\*

\*\*\*trends towards statistically significant at the  $p < .05$  level;  $p = .07$

### In-Custody Activities



#### Education

Empirical evidence shows that the less education an offender has attained, the more likely he or she is to recidivate. A meta-analysis by the RAND Corporation found that participation in educational offerings while in custody—including high school, college courses, and career-technical education—reduces recidivism. BOT-LA has followed the RAND research recommendations and provided high school, college, and career-technical course opportunities.

High School Diplomas = 14

Career Technical Education Certificates

- Welding I (9); Welding II (6); Welding III (6)
- Construction (13)
- Painting I (10); Painting II (7)

Transferrable College Credits Earned = 72

Academic College Courses Completed = 18



#### Reentry Planning

Participants engage in additional program components to ensure foundational life skills, employment readiness, and to address reentry barriers prior to release from incarceration. Participants meet with a dedicated case manager who documents their needs and tracks progress toward reducing those needs. Participants attend life skills seminar offerings, employment readiness sessions, and reentry coordination meetings.

Reentry Planning Sessions = 8

Participants Per Case Manager = 27 to 1

Housing Placement = 15

- 7 Transitional Housing/Sober Living
- 8 Residential Substance Abuse Treatment

Tattoo Removal = 20 Served

Identification Cards Issued = 15

Birth Certificates Issued = 29

Reentry Kits Issued = 42

Return Destination

- Transitional Housing/Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Facility = 15
- Stay with Family and Friends = 5
- Home = 5
- Unknown = 18

Participants That Completed The Life Skills Course = 52

Resume Building = 52



### Recidivism

Although the BOT-LA pilot has been in operation for just over a year, 46 of the 57 participants who have completed the program have been released into the community. Of the 46 participants released, eight have been rearrested—resulting in a 17.39% rearrest rate. The Attorney General is committed to producing a rigorous outcome evaluation of BOT-LA. Work is underway to establish a control group to further evaluate the success of the BOT-LA reentry program.

#### Rearrest Rate

17.39%



8 out of 46

<sup>1</sup>Days released from custody: mean = 147, range = 3 to 269